

THE HOUSE POLICY COMMITTEE

CHRISTOPHER COX, CHAIRMAN

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Rep. Diaz-Balart Named Chair of Policy Subcommittee on The Americas

WASHINGTON (Thursday, March 22, 2001)—House Policy Chairman Christopher Cox (R-Calif.) announced today that Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart (R-Fla.) would serve as chairman of the House Policy Subcommittee on The Americas in the 107th Congress.

“The strengthening of democracy, human rights, and political dialogue, have always been pillars of Lincoln’s ideology, just as they are for our Western Hemisphere,” said House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert. “Lincoln’s leadership in helping to shape our nation’s foreign policy toward North and South America has earned him the respect of his colleagues, who strongly supported his chairmanship.”

“Rep. Diaz-Balart has already convinced his colleagues that U.S. policy has paid too little attention to the Americas recent years,” Chairman Cox said. “Now, he will be in an even better position to revitalize that policy, and I look forward to working with him toward that goal.”

“Under President Bush’s leadership we will see the development of a common market of the Americas; a hemisphere of free and democratic nations, without exceptions, united by free and fair trade, and common values,” Rep. Diaz-Balart said. “We in the Policy Committee are going to contribute to make this a reality. I am honored by the confidence placed in me by Speaker Hastert, Chairman Cox, and the members of the Policy Committee,” said Diaz-Balart.

As the nationally known experts with whom the Policy Committee has worked formally and informally in recent years have moved into the Bush administration, the Policy Committee has responded by establishing a formal subcommittee structure to fulfill its mission as the policy-making arm of the House of Representatives. Chairman Cox announced Rep. Diaz-Balart’s appointment at today’s weekly Policy Committee meeting.

The House Policy Committee is the Majority’s principal forum for discussion of specific legislative initiatives, for the enunciation of official priorities, and for the resolution of inter-jurisdictional policy disputes. More information on the Committee, including a list of its 46 Members, is available at <http://policy.house.gov>.

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